

CHECK INTO THESE ACTIVITIES

- Hike one of our five nature trails.
- Experience the state's various habitats while enjoying the indoor exhibits.
- Request a scavenger hunt for the exhibits or trails.
- View a conservation movie in our indoor staging area.



*SOMETHING
FOR
EVERYONE.*



Building Hours

Tuesday-Saturday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursdays until 8 p.m.

Closed Sunday, Monday, New Year's Day,
Thanksgiving, and Christmas

Area Hours

Open Daily 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Closed New Year's
Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

What Does It Cost?

No fees are charged at the center.

Regulations

Pets, horses, hunting, fishing, collecting, littering, fires, and alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the grounds. Jogging, bicycling, skateboarding, in-line skating, or motorized vehicles are not permitted on the trails.

Address

Runge Conservation Nature Center
PO Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180

Telephone

(573) 526-5544

Website

www.MissouriConservation.org

Runge Conservation Nature Center

K-12 Interpretive Programs Guide



Missouri Department of Conservation
revised **2/2010**

HOW DO I SCHEDULE A PROGRAM AT RUNGE?

- Call the nature center at 573/526-5544 to make your reservation. Twenty-four hour notice of cancellation is appreciated.
- Programs may be scheduled on the hour from 9 - 11 a.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.
- Make your reservation as early as possible. We require a minimum of two-weeks notice.
- A group may schedule a maximum of one program per day with a limit of two programs per group per calendar year.
- We require a minimum of 10 students for a naturalist-led program.



HOW DO I SCHEDULE A PROGRAM AT MY SCHOOL OR FACILITY?

- Call the nature center at 573/526-5544 to make your reservation. Twenty-four hour notice of cancellation is appreciated.
- Programs at your school/facility are scheduled only during the months of December, January, February, and June, July, August.
- 20 or more participants are required.
- A group may schedule a maximum of one program per day (Tuesday-Friday) with a limit of two programs per group per calendar year.
- The school or facility must be within a 50-mile radius of Jefferson City.
- We reserve the right to deny or cancel scheduled programs.

TEACHER/LEADER:

Reservations should be made by a teacher/leader who will be participating in the field trip. If you are visiting, but not reserving a naturalist-led program, we would still appreciate a call denoting group size and estimated time of arrival.

If you schedule your program through a Capitol Representative, please contact the nature center to confirm your reservation.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- We require a minimum of 1 adult per 10 children for supervision and recommend more adults (especially with young children.)
- Please let us know in advance if anyone in your group has special needs.
- Programs with outdoor components are limited to 30 participants. Groups up to 60 can be split if two naturalists are available.
- Groups of 61-200 are limited to an indoor program.
- Programs are approximately one hour long.
- Even if you are unable to schedule a program your group is welcome to visit anytime during our regular business hours.
- Runge Nature Center has many resources available, including exhibits, movies, trails, and a library.

Runge Mission Statement

Interpret to visitors the fish, forest, and wildlife resources of Missouri in order to increase:

- quality of life
- wise stewardship of resources
- participation in outdoor resource-related activities

INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS

Grades K-4

Insects—Though they are small, insects rule the world. In this program, we will use a variety of props to demonstrate and explain why insects are so important to plants, wildlife, and people.



SMS: SC3 & 4

GLE: L01A, L02C, EC1A, B & D, EC2A

Spiders—You may be surprised to learn that a creature as tiny and fragile-looking as a spider is actually a mighty predator. Students will learn how spiders hunt, see at least one live spider, and go outside to look for spiders.



SMS: SC3, 4 & 8

GLE: L01A & D, EC1A, EC2A, EC3C

Frogs—Frogs and their family members need water to start their life. Live amphibians along with a variety of props will be used to discuss the characteristics and life cycle of frogs. We will also visit a small pond and look for frogs and tadpoles.



SMS: SC3

GLE: L01A, B & D, L03D

Reptiles—Missouri reptiles are a classy group of animals! Props, artifacts, and live animals will be used to familiarize students with the class of animals known as reptiles.



SMS: SC3 & 4

GLE: L01A, B & D, EC1A, EC3C

Mammals—Learn about Missouri mammals through their clues. Students will discover the characteristics of mammals by studying furs, tracks, scat, and other signs.



SMS: SC3 & 4

GLE: L01A & D, L03D, EC1A, EC3C



Sensory Exploration—Like a wild animal, you can use all your senses to learn about the outdoors. This outdoor hike is designed to identify our five senses, provide outdoor experiences using them, and demonstrate how wild animals use their senses.



SMS: SC3 & 4

GLE: L01A & D, EC1A, EC3C

Grades 2-4 ONLY

Food Chain—Starting with the sun, all living organisms are linked together. Various props, activities, and a live animal will help students explore the elements of food chains and how they fit into the larger web of life.



SMS: SC3 & 4

GLE: L01A, EC2A

Bat Echolocation—Missouri bats depend on sound to survive. We will use slides, sounds, activities, and even a bat detector to help students better understand Missouri bats and how they rely on sound.



SMS: SC3 & 4

GLE: L01A & D, EC1A, EC2A, EC3C

Predators—Predators aren't mean or vicious—they're just trying to survive. Students will be introduced to a few Missouri predators and learn about some of their special adaptations through slides, props, and live animals.



SMS: SC3 & 4

GLE: L01A & D, EC1A & D, EC2A, EC3C

CHECK INTO THESE ACTIVITIES DURING YOUR VISIT TO THE NATURE CENTER.

- Hike one of our five nature trails.
- Experience the state's various habitats while enjoying the indoor exhibits.
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SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.

KEY:



Program can be scheduled at your school.



Program takes place outdoors or has an outdoor component. In case of inclement weather, an indoor program may be substituted.

SMS = Show-Me Standards
GLE = Grade Level Expectations

INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS

Grades 5-8

Trees—Get to know your trees and they will nourish you for a long time. Students will learn how to use a taxonomic key, hike a trail to identify trees, and discover the true wealth of a forest.

SMS: SC3, 4 & 8

GLE: L01A & D, L02B, EC1A, EC2A, EC3C, ES3A

Insects—Insects use mouthparts like people use tools. This program is designed to relate insect mouthparts with common tools people use, to identify different types of insect mouthparts, and to associate insect mouthparts with insect foods and eating habits.

SMS: SC3 & 4

GLE: L01A & D, EC3C, IS1A

Snakes—Snakes depend on color and behavior to survive in the wild. Slides and live snakes will be used to help students better understand the purpose of color and behavior to snake survival.

SMS: SC3 & 4

GLE: L01A, B & D, EC1A, EC3C

Missouri Owls—Owls are as much a benefit to us as we are to them. Mounts, sounds, and slides will be used to help students learn about Missouri owls and their importance to people. Smaller groups may also dissect owl pellets to better understand owls' importance in food chains.

SMS: SC3, 4 & 8

GLE: L01A & D, L02C, EC1A, B & D, EC2A, EC3C

Endangered Species—

Endangered animals and plants can be saved if we become part of the solution. Several activities will be used to demonstrate causes of extinction. We will also explore some of Missouri's conservation success stories.

SMS: SC3, 4 & 8

GLE: L01A & D, EC1A, B & D, ES3A, IS3A & B

Intro to Natural

Communities—Change the recipe of a natural community and you change the wildlife within it. This program focuses on how natural communities are formed and how they can be managed. We will explore at least three Missouri natural communities using mounts, slides, and a hike.

SMS: SC3, 4 & 8

GLE: L01A, EC1A, B & D

Ponds—The delicate balance of nature is revealed by peering into a pond. Students will examine a small pond using nets and other tools to better understand the interdependence found in this water ecosystem.

SMS: SC3, 4, 5 & 8

GLE: L01A, EC1A, B & C, EC3C, ES1B, ES3A, IS1A

Discovery Hike—Hiking, exploring, and playing in nature leads to discovery. Groups will be led through various observation and awareness activities as they hike one of the nature center trails.

SMS: SC3 & 5

GLE: L01A, ES1A



Grades 9-12

Amphibians and Reptiles—

Missouri's diverse habitats encourage a wide array of herpetile species. Students will be introduced to a variety of Missouri amphibians and reptiles using slides and live animals.

SMS: SC3 & 4

GLE: L01A & D, EC1A, B & C, ES3A

Endangered Species—Indiana

bats and hellbenders tell the story of endangered species in Missouri. Slides, props, and activities focused on two Missouri animals will help students understand the scope of what endangered means.

SMS: SC3, 4 & 8

GLE: L01A, B & D, L03D, EC1A, B, C & D, EC2A, IS3B

Missouri's Natural

Communities—Animals and people need healthy natural communities. We will hike to several natural communities along one of the nature center trails. During our hike we will point out characteristics of the communities and discuss wildlife associated with them.

SMS: SC3, 4 & 8

GLE: L01A, L02B, EC1A, B, C & D, EC2A, EC3C, ES3A

Wildlife Rumors—The truth

behind the stories of many Missouri animals may be stranger and more interesting than fiction. We will use wildlife artifacts and live animals to reveal the truth behind the rumors.

SMS: SC3

GLE: L01A & D

Discovery Hike—Hiking, exploring, and playing in nature leads to discovery. Groups will be led through various observation and awareness activities as they hike one of the nature center trails.

SMS: SC3

GLE: L01A & D